



# CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEWS RELEASE

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## Department of Toxic Substances Control

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### **DTSC Renews Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's Hazardous Waste Permit**

BERKELEY – The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced it has approved the renewal of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's (Lab) hazardous waste facility permit. The renewed ten (10) year permit will become effective on Dec. 22, 2006, unless appealed.

Acting as the responsible agency under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC also determined that the environmental documents prepared by the University of California – Lab officials adequately address potential impacts associated with the permit renewal project. In addition, DTSC took into consideration numerous public comments received during a 60-day public comment period before making the final permit decision.

The Lab is located at One Cyclotron Road in the Berkeley hills and consists of approximately 200 acres of land above the UC Berkeley campus. The Lab is a multidisciplinary research facility managed by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and is operated by the University of California. A wide range of research is conducted at the Lab, including high-energy physics, accelerator research and development, materials research and chemistry, geology, molecular biology and biomedical research.

Hazardous wastes are generated by various research and support operations at the Lab. This waste is sent to the Lab's Hazardous Waste Handling Facility (Facility) for treatment or temporary storage.

The renewed permit will allow the Lab to continue to receive and process hazardous and mixed waste. Mixed waste is hazardous waste that contains low levels of radioactive material. The wastes are shipped from the Lab's hazardous waste facility to authorized off-site treatment, storage, disposal or recycling facilities. Hazardous wastes managed at the Lab may include corrosive liquids, solvents, oils, coolants, aqueous chemical solutions, contaminated soil, motor vehicle batteries, metal sludges, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and PCB-contaminated equipment, mercury wastes, oily rags, latex and oil-based paint materials, and spent activated carbon.

Community members who submitted comments on the draft permit or otherwise participated in the process may appeal the permit renewal decision with a petition postmarked no later than December 22, 2006, and sent to: Deputy Director, Hazardous Waste Management Program, DTSC, P.O. Box 806, Sacramento, CA 95812-0806. The petition for review must meet standards specified in the Code of California Regulations. For more information, contact Waqar Ahmad at (510) 540-3932 or email him at [wahmad@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:wahmad@dtsc.ca.gov).

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***The Department of Toxic Substances Control is a department of the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.***